PLANT FACT SHEET

Ficus dammaropsis Diels

GENUS *Ficus* **FAMILY** Moraceae

COMMON NAMES Highlands kapiak, Dinnerplate fig

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The young leaves are eaten with meat.
The outside layer of the fruit is edible.
The young fruit are boiled and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A fig tree. It grows to 9-13 m high. The large young leaves are eaten. The branches are strong and flexible and contain a milky juice. The tree has a single trunk without buttresses or aerial roots. It is often straggling. Seedling trees vary considerably in size of leaves and colour of young leaves and veins. The leaves are large. They can be 60-100 cm long. They are deeply corrugated with veins. The veins can be red or yellow. The fruit is large (15 cm across) and made up of large overlapping scale leaves. It ripens to a deep purple.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. Trees occur from 900 m to 2700 m but it is most common between 1600 and 1750 m altitude. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Trees grow from seeds and are transplanted. Cuttings of branches do not normally establish. It can be grown by air-layering.

NOTES

There are about 800-1000 Ficus species. They are mostly in the tropics. There are 120 Ficus species in tropical America.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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